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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/17/2017

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [CH](#) [GM](#)

SUBJECT: GERMAN EMBOFF CONFIRMS CHINA CANCELLED RULE OF LAW
AND HUMAN RIGHTS TALKS OVER CHANCELLOR'S DALAI LAMA MEETING

REF: BEIJING 6376

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Aubrey Carlson. Reasons 1.
4 (b/d).

(C) On October 16 German Emboff Ingrid Jung confirmed media reports that China cancelled two meetings with Germany on Rule of Law and on Human Rights since learning about Chancellor Merkel's September 23 meeting with the Dalai Lama in Berlin. On September 22, just before Merkel's meeting, Chinese officials cited "technical reasons" in canceling participation in Rule of Law talks then scheduled for September 23 in Berlin. On October 11, China cancelled a Human Rights dialogue round planned for December, stating that the Chancellor's meeting with the Dalai Lama had caused China to "lose confidence" in the dialogue. (Note: German Ambassador Michael Schaefer predicted this cancellation at the September 28 bi-weekly G-5 Chiefs of Mission meeting (reftel)).
Randt